

Dear Property Owner,

The Legislature recently passed and the Governor signed legislation to require some property owners to pay a fee for state fire prevention services in their area.

According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), you own property in one of the designated areas and must pay the new California Fire Prevention Fee. The Board of Equalization is required by law to collect the fee.

As the owner of property within this area, you will soon receive a bill requiring you to pay up to \$150 per habitable structure. After you receive your bill, you will have 30 days from the date on the bill to send a payment or protest the amount of the bill in writing.

If you have any questions about this fee, call 888-310-6447 or visit [www.firepreventionfee.org](http://www.firepreventionfee.org).

# ADVANCE NOTICE

*CA Fire Prevention Fee – Bill Coming Soon*



## How can I confirm that my structure is within the SRA?

Go to the Fire Prevention Fee website to access the "State Responsibility Area Viewer." A link to the website is shown below. Click the "Launch the Viewer" box to enter your property address or to use other search features.

[www.FirePreventionFee.org/SRAviewer](http://www.FirePreventionFee.org/SRAviewer)

## Who is responsible for paying the fee?

The person or entity responsible for paying the fee is the owner on record of a habitable structure in the county assessor rolls or as recorded in the records of the California Department of Housing and Community Development on July 1st of each year for which the fee is due.

## What happens if I don't pay the bill?

If the fee is not paid within 30 days of the billing date, the Board of Equalization (BOE) will mail a late notice, which may include interest and penalties. The BOE may take other actions to collect any unpaid fees. If you have questions about where to direct your payment or to make payment arrangements, please contact the BOE at: 1-800-400-7115 M-F, 8:00-5:00, except state holidays.

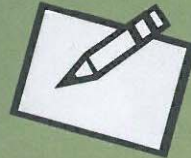
## I have questions about my bill, what should I do?

If you believe you were billed in error or the amounts shown on the billing were not correctly calculated, you should file a Petition for Redetermination. A Petition for Redetermination must be filed within 30 days of the date of the billing. The petition must be on a form as prescribed, state the specific grounds upon which the petition is founded and include copies of supporting documentation.

To obtain a Petition for Redetermination form, please call our Service Center at **1-888-310-6447** M-F, 8:00-5:00, except state holidays, or visit the website at [www.FirePreventionFee.org](http://www.FirePreventionFee.org).

Examples of specific issues that may be considered in a petition include, but are not limited to, whether the structure is located in the SRA; the number of habitable structures and whether the property is located in an area that receives local fire protection services. Please note that filing a petition may not prevent your account from accruing interest or other penalties if it is not paid within 30 days of the date of the bill. Mail your petition to:

**Fire Prevention Fee Service Center  
PO Box 2544  
Suisun City, CA 94585**



# What is the Fire Prevention Fee?

## What is a "habitable structure?"



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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where can I get more information?

## What is the Fire Prevention Fee?

Assembly Bill x1 29 was signed into law on July 7, 2011 establishing an annual fee to pay for fire prevention services within the State Responsibility Area (SRA). The Fire Prevention Fee applies to owners of habitable structures on property located within the SRA.

## What is the amount of the fee?

The fee amount is \$150 per habitable structure. However, owners of habitable structures within the boundaries of a local fire protection agency will receive a reduction of \$35 per habitable structure. The specific fee amount for your property can be found on the enclosed notice.

## What is a “habitable structure?”

A “habitable structure” is a building that can be occupied for residential use.

These include: single family homes, multi-dwelling structures, mobile and manufactured homes, condos and apartment buildings.



Habitable structures do NOT include buildings such as garages, barns, outdoor sanitation facilities and sheds.



## What is the State Responsibility Area?

The State Responsibility Area (SRA) is the area of the state where the State of California is financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. SRA does not include lands within city boundaries or in federal ownership.

## What does the fee pay for?

This fee will fund a variety of important fire prevention services within the SRA including brush clearance and activities to improve forest health so the forest can better withstand wildfire. Other activities funded by the fee include fire break construction, defensible space inspections, fire prevention engineering, emergency evacuation planning, fire prevention education, fire hazard severity mapping, fire related law enforcement and implementation of the State Fire Plan.



## Where can I get more information?

For more information about the Fire Prevention Fee please call:

**1-888-310-6447**

or visit our website, shown below, to review a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

**[www.FirePreventionFee.org](http://www.FirePreventionFee.org)**

*Information provided by the  
California Department of Forestry  
and Fire Protection*